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Plant Inventory No. 133

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Washington, D. C. June 1948



PLANT MATERIAL INTRODUCED BY THE DIVISION OF PLANT EXPLORATION AND INTRODUCTION, BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY,¹ OCTOBER 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 1937 (Nos. 124969 to 126493)

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INTRODUCTORY STATEMENT

This inventory, No. 133, records the plant material (Nos. 124969 to 126493) received by the Division of Plant Exploration and Introduction during the period October 1 to December 31, 1937.

With the definite purpose of studying wild tomato material in the field and of collecting whatever was available, particularly from plants believed to be truly wild, Dr. H. L. Blood, of the Utah Agricultural Experiment Station, and cooperating with the Division of Fruit and Vegetable Crops and Diseases, Bureau of Plant Industry, spent the last 2 months of 1937 in Peru, Bolivia, northern Argentina, and Chile, collecting not only this type of material but also cultivated tomatoes from native markets.

In addition to true tomatoes, he gathered seeds of various other non-tuberous solanaceous plants, including species of *Cyphomandra*, *Nicandra*, *Physalis*, and *Solanum*, which have been added to the working material of Department pathologists.

Since that time, many of his collections have been studied taxonomically and reported by C. H. Muller (Miscellaneous Publication No. 382, A Revision of the Genus *Lycopersicon*, July 1940); these include one new species, one new variety, and three new forms.

Pathologists have already published on the unusual characteristics of one of the wild tomatoes, *Lycopersicon hirsutum*, found by Dr. Blood. It is stated (Phytopathology 29: 757-759, 1939) that while making crosses between this wild species and the common tomato the discovery was made that *L. hirsutum* is apparently completely tolerant to tobacco mosaic and extremely resistant to fusarium wilt.

Contrary to many suppositions, Afghanistan is not entirely inaccessible if one may judge by the more than 900 introductions in this present inventory that are credited to the Bureau's agricultural explorer

¹ Now Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering, Agricultural Research Administration, United States Department of Agriculture.